

In re Patent Application of:
DAIR ET AL.
Serial No. 10/618,234
Filed: **JULY 11, 2003**

REMARKS

Claims 38 to 44, 64 to 66 and 77 to 82 are currently pending.

Claims 38, 39, 42 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,780,053 (Yunker et al).

Claims 40, 41, 43, 64 to 66 and 77 to 82 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yunker et al in view of United States Patent No. 6,439,781 (Gaio et al).

The claims of the application have been amended to overcome the objections of the Examiner and to better define the invention in light of the prior art. In particular, claims 38 and 77 have been amended to include the features of claims 43 and 78, respectively, which have been canceled. Claims 38 and 77 now include the step of folding the strap across the open end of the shielded housing for connecting the septum to the bottom side of the shielded housing, which holds the sub-assembly therein.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the transceiver cage 410 disclosed in the Yunkers et al reference as a "shielded housing", since the transceiver cage 410 is a separate structure mounted on a host circuit board for releasably receiving a transceiver module, whereas the present invention relates to a method of assembling a transceiver module, as a single unit. Accordingly, the catch 446 disclosed in the Yunkers et al

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reference, does not "close the open end of the shielded housing" nor does it "hold the subassembly and the shielded housing assembled together". The catch 446 provides a simple clasp for temporarily keeping a transceiver module in the transceiver cage 410, but does hold them assembled together. Furthermore, the Yunkers et al reference does not disclose or even infer the step of "folding a strap and a septum of the shielded housing across the open end..."

With reference to the Gaio et al reference, the shield 18 has a first open end, which is slid over the optical fiber connection unit 10, and a second open end, which the strap extends across. Accordingly, the strap in the Gaio et al reference does not hold the subassembly in the shielding housing. Furthermore, since the strap in the Gaio reference is contiguous with the top and bottom of the shield, there is no possibility that the assembly method includes the step of "folding a strap and a septum of the shielded housing across the open end to couple to the bottom side of the shielded housing to hold the subassembly strapped into the shielded housing". Moreover, since the shield 18 is simply slid over the optical fiber connection unit 10, there would be no reason for such an assembly step to even be considered.

A particular advantage of the septum, according to the present invention, is the ability to interconnect the flaps, e.g. 415A and 415B, which form the bottom of the shielded housing. Neither of the cited references discloses the use of a third flap, i.e. the septum, to hold two other flaps together and to the strap.

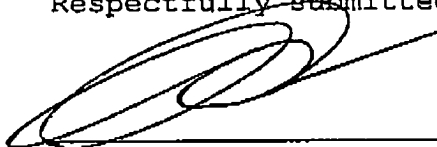
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As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1465 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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